Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph "0027", with the following amended paragraph:

A transaction is an exchange of packets that allows a module to access the state of another module. A transaction comprises the transfer of a request packet from a source module to a destination module, followed by the transfer of a response packet from that destination module (now acting as a responding module) back to the source module which made the original request. The request packet initiates a transaction and its contents determine the access to be made. The response packet completes the transaction and its contents indicate the result of the access. A response packet also indicates whether the request was valid or not. If the request was valid, a so-called ordinary response packet is sent. If the request was invalid, an error response packet is transmitted. Some modules act only as initiators and thus their packet handling circuitry is capable only of the generation of request packets. Some modules act only as targets (e.g., module M4 in Figure[[3]]1A), and therefore their packet handling circuitry 2 is capable only of generating response packets. In that case, both ordinary responses and error responses can be generated. However, some modules are capable of acting both as initiators or as targets (e.g., modules M1 and M2 in Figs. [[3]]1A and 1B), and their packet handling circuitry is capable of generating both request and response type packets.

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